United Nations A/55/552

General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 November 2000

Original: English

Fifty-fifth session
Agenda items 66 and 67

Development of good-neighbourly relations among Balkan States

Maintenance of international security

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Rastislav **Gabriel** (Slovakia)

I. Introduction

1. The items entitled "Development of good-neighbourly relations among Balkan States" and "Maintenance of international security: (a) prevention of the violent disintegration of States; (b) stability and development of South-Eastern Europe" were included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions 52/48 of 9 December 1997 and 54/62 of 1 December 1999.

2. At its 9th plenary meeting, on 11 September 2000, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the items in its agenda and to allocate them to the First Committee.

3. At its 2nd meeting, on 14 September 2000, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 65 to 81, which was held at the 3rd to 13th meetings, from 2 to 13 October (see A/C.1/55/PV.3-13). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 14th to 21st meetings, from 13 to 23 October (see A/C.1/55/PV.14-21). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 22nd to 28th meetings, from 25 October to 1 November (see A/C.1/55/PV.22-28).

4. For its consideration of the items, the Committee had before it the following documents:

00-73463 (E) 131100

(a) Letter dated 19 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/55/76);

(b) Letter dated 20 July 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/165);

(c) Letter dated 3 August 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of China and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/277-S/2000/783);

(d) Letter dated 15 September 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/398-S/2000/883);

(e) Letter dated 21 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/406-S/2000/892);

(f) Letter dated 10 October 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of India and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/473).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.1/55/L.47 and Rev.1

5. At the 16th meeting, on 17 October, the representative of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, on behalf of Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Maintenance of international security — good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe" (A/C.1/55/L.47). Subsequently, Cyprus, Italy and the Republic of Moldova joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the 26th meeting, on 31 October, the representative of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, on behalf of the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.1/55/L.47, now joined by Iceland and Turkey, introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/55/L.47/Rev.1), which contained the following changes:

(a) The words "and the Joint Statement of the Heads of State and Government adopted at Skopje on 25 October 2000" were added at the end of the ninth preambular paragraph;

(b) At the beginning of the tenth preambular paragraph, the words "*Recalling* the outcome of ..." were replaced by the words "*Noting further*";

(c) In operative paragraph 7, the word "bilateral" was deleted before the word "conflicts".

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/55/L.47/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 150 to none (see para. 8). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

None.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Maintenance of international security — good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, signed at Helsinki, Finland, on 1 August 1975,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1]

Welcoming the democratic changes in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and their positive effects on the peace, stability and development of South-Eastern Europe,

Recalling its resolutions 48/84 B of 16 December 1993, 50/80 B of 12 December 1995, 51/55 of 10 December 1996, 52/48 of 9 December 1997, 53/71 of 4 December 1998 and 54/62 of 1 December 1999,

Recalling also the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe initiated by the European Union, adopted at Cologne, Germany, on 10 June 1999 and endorsed at the Sarajevo Summit of 30 July 1999, and stressing the crucial importance of its implementation,

Recalling also the Sarajevo Summit Declaration, in which the participants affirm their collective and individual readiness to give concrete meaning to the Pact by promoting political and economic reforms, development and enhanced security in the region and also their commitment to make every effort to assist countries in the region in making speedy and measurable progress along this road,

Emphasizing the crucial importance of the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 on Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Noting the importance of the activities of the international organizations, such as the European Union, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe and the contribution of the Central European Initiative and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation for the implementation of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe,

Noting also the importance of the Charger of good-neighbourly relations, stability, security and cooperation in South-Eastern Europe signed by the participating States of the South-East European Cooperation Process at Bucharest on 12 February 2000, and the Joint Statement of the Heads of State and Government adopted at Skopje on 25 October 2000,

Noting further the convening of the Conference on War-Affected Children at Winnipeg, Canada, from 10 to 17 September 2000,

Emphasizing the importance of regional efforts in South-Eastern Europe on arms control, demining, disarmament and confidence-building measures and concerned that, in spite of ongoing efforts, the illicit traffic and circulation of small arms continue to persist,

Mindful of the importance of national and international activities by all relevant organizations aimed at the creation of peace, security, stability, democracy, cooperation, economic development, observance of human rights and good-neighbourliness in South-Eastern Europe,

Affirming its determination that all nations should live together in peace with one another as good neighbours,

---

[1] Resolution 55/2.

1. *Affirms* the urgency of consolidating South-Eastern Europe as a region of peace, security, stability, democracy, cooperation and economic development and for the promotion of good-neighbourliness and observance of human rights, thus contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security and enhancing the prospects for sustained development and prosperity for all peoples in the region as an integral part of Europe;

2. *Calls upon* all participants in the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, and all concerned international organizations, to support the efforts of South-Eastern European States to overcome the negative effects of the Kosovo crisis and other recent crises so as to enable them to pursue sustainable development and their integration into the European structures, and welcomes the results of the third meeting of the Working Table on Security Issues of the Stability Pact, held at Sofia on 4 and 5 October 2000;

3. *Encourages* all States to contribute to the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 on Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and welcomes the efforts of and supports the role of the United Nations Interim Administration in Kosovo and the Kosovo Force in the implementation of their mandates under that resolution;

4. *Calls upon* all States, the relevant international organizations and competent organs of the United Nations to respect the principles of territorial integrity and sovereignty of all States and the inviolability of international borders, to continue to take measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, as appropriate, to eliminate threats to international peace and security and to help to prevent conflicts which can lead to the violent disintegration of States;

5. *Stresses* the importance of good-neighbourliness and the development of friendly relations among States and calls upon all States to resolve their disputes with other States by peaceful means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

6. *Urges* strengthening of the relations among the States of South-Eastern Europe on the basis of respect for international law and agreements, in accordance with the principles of good-neighbourliness and mutual respect;

7. *Stresses* the importance of regional efforts aimed at preventing conflicts that endanger the maintenance of international peace and security and, in this regard, notes with satisfaction the role of the Multinational Peace Force for South-Eastern Europe;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of regional efforts in South-Eastern Europe for arms control, disarmament and confidence-building measures;

9. *Recognizes* the seriousness of the problem of anti-personnel mines in South-Eastern Europe and, in this context, welcomes the efforts of the international community in support of mine action and encourages States to join and support these efforts;

10. *Urges* all States to take effective measures against illicit traffic in and circulation of small arms, to help programmes and projects aimed at the safe destruction of surplus stocks of small arms and light weapons, and stresses the importance of closer cooperation among States, inter alia, in crime prevention, combating illicit trade of people, drug trafficking and money laundering;

11. *Stresses* that closer engagement of the South-Eastern European States in furthering cooperation on the European continent will favourably influence the security, political and economic situation in the region, as well as good-neighbourly relations among the States;

12. *Calls upon* all States and the relevant international organizations to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the subject of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session an item entitled "Maintenance of international security — good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe".